

## **ELMWOOD**

### **Elmwood Avenue, Cambridge**

This three-story frame house, built in the late 18th century and altered early in the 19th, was the birthplace and lifelong home of James Russell Lowell. As first editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, Lowell exerted a great influence on American literature. His literary achievements were matched by his diplomatic career, culminating with his appointment as ambassador to the Court of Saint James's in 1880. Before Lowell's occupancy, Elbridge Gerry, signer of the Declaration of Independence and vice president of the United States, but who will forever be remembered by the term *gerrymander*, lived in this house. It now serves handsomely as the residence of Harvard's presidents.